

Weekly Newsletter

Spring Term 2020

Date: 24th January

Skill for Success—Responsibility

“Think about how the things you do affect others”

CELEBRATIONS—Rotary Club Youth Speaks Competition

Last evening we hosted the Tavistock Rotary Club’s local round of this public speaking competition. 12 teams were entered from 8 local primary schools. Teams of 3 children take on the roles of Chair, Speaker and Vote of Thanks and speak to an audience of more than 100. In order to take part, every child worked hard to learn their words and practice their presentation with their team.

We had 3 teams in the competition—Archie, Ayanna, Courtney, Dan, Joe, Josie, Miley, Thea and Willow and they all represented our school with superb presentation and confidence—we are very proud of you all!

Our team of Dan, Thea and Courtney spoke on the theme of: ‘An American in Devon—can they survive?’ and they were successful in winning a place in the next round and will compete again on 12th February at Callington College.

School Priorities for this year

- Staff wellbeing and workload—review our practices and procedures.
- Curriculum—evaluate what we include in our curriculum, how we teach it and how much the children remember and learn.
- Reading—promoting ways to increase ‘the skill’ (being able to read) and ‘the will’ (wanting to read regularly) for all children.
- Vocabulary—ensuring that children have a wide vocabulary in order to communicate their knowledge, skills and understanding.

Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead: Mrs L Selbie

Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mrs L Handel

School Business Manager: Mrs S Gawman

Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator: Mrs C Smith

Email: admin@tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk Telephone: 01822 616044

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Our next event will be a school disco on Thursday 6th February.

5-6pm Reception and Key Stage 1

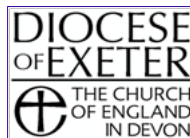
6.15– 7.15pm Key stage 2

YEAR 5 ART PROJECT

8 talented children were selected to do the Rotary Club Art Project this year. They spent 3 days immersed in the theme of 'My Coast' and produced paintings, beach huts, acrylic canvases and collages. The art teacher, Mrs Sharpe, highly praised the children's work ethic, attention and superb behaviour. Their work will be exhibited in June at Butchers' Hall—details will follow later in the year.

SWIMMING

Our squad began their Wednesday's training this week along with a group of Year 5 and 6 children who are continuing to develop their swimming.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY WORKER****ST.EUSTACHIUS' CHURCH**

0.4 FTE 16 hours per week for 37 weeks per year (including 4 weeks paid leave) starting Easter 2020

Contract: Fixed Term initially for 2 years

Closing date for applications: 12 Noon on Monday 24th February 2020

Interview date: Thursday, 5th March 2020
To register your interest and receive full details of the post please send an email to parishoffice@tavistockparishchurch.org.uk

For an informal discussion, please send your details to the above address with a telephone contact and someone will call you.

HEARD AFTER THE YEAR 6 GARDEN DAY

We had toasted marshmallows—yum!

GARDEN DAYS this half term—wellies, layers of old clothes ESSENTIAL!

Nursery—Thursday 30th January

Reception—Friday 14th February

Key Stage 1—Friday 7th February

Year 4—Thursday 6th February

Year 5—Friday 31st January

CELEBRATIONS

All children can take part in the Children's University. Learning hours can be recorded in a passport and these total to achieve certificates, badges and ultimately, a graduation ceremony at Plymouth University.

ASK YOUR CHILD

How do you help to make the school safe?

DIARY DATES— calendar available on our website www.tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk**January**

Tues 28th—Dartmoor Residential Parents' meeting 3.30pm in Year 4

Thurs 30th—Year 5 visit to the Faith Centre in Plymouth

Friday 31st—Y6 Family Assembly

February

Tues 4th—Governing Board meeting

Wed 5th Y4 Dance festival

Thurs 6th—Disco 5-6pm YR and KS1

Thurs 6th—Disco 6.15-7.15pm KS2

Fri 7th—YR Family Assembly

Mon 10th—Parents' Eves 3.30-6pm

Tues 11th—Theatre group visiting Y6

Wed 12th—Parents' Eves 3.30-6pm

Wed 12th—Cross Country (1—Meadows)

Thurs 13th—Parents' Eve C13 3.30-6pm

Fri 14th—Y4 Family Assembly

HEALTH AND SAFETY AUDIT

On Wednesday we had our 3 yearly audit from the Devon County Council health and Safety Team. They checked our policies, record keeping, maintenance schedules and responses to incidents. Although we do not have the written report yet, we were verbally told that the audit was 100% and excellent.

GOVERNING BOARD

This week Governors have been monitoring Reading in Key Stage 2 and the Behaviour Policy. Their reports and questions will help our school to review our practice and further improve.

MONITORING ACROSS THE SCHOOL

Senior leaders have visited Key Stage 1 this week and talked to a selection of children about their work. Year 3 and Year 4 has also been observed today.

SCHOOL DATES

2019—2020

Half Term

Monday 17th Feb to Friday 21st Feb

Easter Holidays

Monday 30th March to Monday 13th April

Start of Term

Tuesday 14th April

Bank Holiday

Friday 8th May

Half Term

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May and

INSET Day—Monday 1st June

Start of Term for children

Tuesday 2nd June

End of Term for children

Friday 17th July

INSET Days—Mon 20th and Tues 21st July

2020—2021

INSET Days Thurs 3rd and Fri 4th Sept

Children back to school **Monday 7th Sept**

ATTENDANCE

In Monday's assembly 33 children will receive 'praise letters' for improved attendance. This is an excellent achievement which recognises that since last year or term they have come to school more and on time. Well done!

BEHAVIOUR

'Good to be Green'

Last week across the whole school:

RED = 3 cards

Well done children—kind words, kind hands, kind feet.

PARENTMAIL

Please can all parents check into 'The Shop' section of Parentmail as some parents still have outstanding invoices for After-School Club and Nursery from last term. As these facilities are extra to the standard school day, none payment by parents may result in the service being withdrawn from your children and the debts being transferred to the Devon County Council debt collection team.

VISITOR TO YEAR 6

Last week Mr Jonathon Marshall MBE came and spoke to the children about the Holocaust survivor Solly Irving. It was an informative and moving talk and the children demonstrated excellent empathy through their insightful questions and comments. Solly Irving died in 2017 but before that he visited many schools in the local area.

Solly's message to young people is a lasting reminder:

"I want you to remember, and when you go out into the world try to be friends with people, especially those who seem to be different; talk to them and respect them even though their beliefs may be different. After all we are all part of the same human family aren't we? Try to create a better world than the one I grew up in."

For information - Holocaust Memorial Day is Monday 27th January